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~~SECRET SPOKE~~

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~~SECRET~~ SAVIN SECTION TWO OF THREE 2/G6/VCK-E/R179-66 FROM 0850 TO PITIZ, DRV AIR SURVEILLANCE FACILITIES REFLECTED ONE MIG TRACK (TYPE AND NUMBER UNKNOWN), IS THE SAME GENERAL AREA AS THE AIR ENGAGEMENT PREVIOUSLY REFLECTED ON DRV TACTICAL VOICE FACILITIES. AT 0854Z, THIS MIG TRACK AND A HOSTILE TRACK, IDENTIFIED AS 2/4 AIRCRAFT, MERGED AT 2108N 10622E, INDICATING A POSSIBLE ENGAGEMENT. (REF USA-32SPOT REPORT 2/H3/VCK/R434-66, DTG 160954Z, SEP 66 AND FOLLOW-UPS THERETO). OPERATIONAL REPORTS REFLECTED TWO ENGAGEMENTS AND TWO MIG SIGHTINGS APPROXIMATELY 30 NAUTICAL MILES EAST NORTHEAST OF HANOI BETWEEN 0840 AND 0852Z. AT APPROXIMATELY 0840Z, A FLIGHT OF THREE F4'S WERE INTERCEPTED BY FOUR MIG-17'S AND IN THE ENGAGEMENT THAT FOLLOWED, ONE MIG-17 WAS REPORTED TO HAVE BEEN SHOTDOWN, WHILE ONE F4 WAS LOST TO AN UNKNOWN CAUSE. THE MIG SHOOTDOWN WAS CONFIRMED BY TWO PILOTS, BOTH REPORTED SEEING DEBRIS AND A WHITE PARACHUTE. THERE WERE NO REFERENCES, BY THE MIG PILOTS ACTIVE ON DRV TACTICAL VOICE FACILITIES, OF A SHOOTDOWN OF A HOSTILE AIRCRAFT, THEREFORE, IT IS POSSIBLE THAT THE F4 WAS NOT LOST AS A RESULT OF THIS ENGAGEMENT. THE ENGAGEMENT, AS REPORTED BY U.S. PILOTS, CORRELATES WITH THE ENGAGEMENT REFLECTED ON DRV TACTICAL VOICE FACILITIES. DRV TACTICAL VOICE FACILITIES DID INDICATE THAT A MIG-17 WAS POSSIBLY DAMAGED, AND OTHER STATEMENTS BY THE MIG PILOTS SUGGESTED A POSSIBLE SHOOTDOWN OF A MIG, HOWEVER, ALL FOUR MIG'S ACTIVE DURING THE ENGAGEMENT WERE NOTED LANDING AT HANOI GIA LAM. A SECOND BRIEF ENGAGEMENT WAS REPORTED BY U.S. PILOTS BETWEEN 0850 AND 0852Z, WHEN A FLIGHT OF FOUR F-105'S ENCOUNTERED TWO MIG-17'S IN THE VICINITY OF 2108N 10617E. ONE OF THE F-105'S MADE A FIRING PASS, REPORTING NO HITS, BEFORE THE MIG'S BROKE THE ENGAGEMENT WITHOUT FIRING. THESE TWO MIG-17'S WERE POSSIBLY THE ONES NOTED DEPARTING PHUC YEN AT 0844Z, WHICH ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE PROVIDED COVER FOR THE FOUR MIG-17'S WHICH HAD ENGAGED THE THREE F4'S. TWO MIG SIGHTINGS WERE ALSO REPORTED BY U.S. PILOTS. THE FIRST, AT 0845Z, WHEN THE PILOTS OF FOUR F-105'S REPORTED SEEING FOUR MIG-21'S AT A REPORTED POSITION OF 2109N 10645E. DRV AIR SURVEILLANCE AND TACTICAL VOICE FACILITIES DO NOT REFLECT THIS FLIGHT OF MIG-21'S, HOWEVER, CROSS-UP IFF SIGNALS WERE INTERCEPTED FROM 0848 TO 0920Z, IN THE VICINITY OF PHUC YEN AND KEP. AT 0847Z, A SECOND FLIGHT OF F-105'S REPORTED SIGHTING A FLIGHT OF FOUR MIG-17'S IN THE VICINITY OF 2114N 10625E. THIS SIGHTING WAS PROBABLY THE FOUR MIG-17'S WHICH WERE ENGAGED WITH THE THREE F4'S, AND ARE POSSIBLY THE F-105'S REFERRED TO BY THE MIG PILOTS DURING THE ENGAGEMENT. SECTION TWO - AIR DEFENSE AND FLIGHT ACTIVITY FOR 16 SEPTEMBER 1966
1. SIGHT FOR 16 SEPTEMBER REFLECTED 27 RADAR STATIONS ACTIVE

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COMINT DID NOT REFLECT ANY LAUNCHES, WHILE OPERATIONAL REPORTS REFLECTED A
MINIMUM OF TWO MISSILES, OBSERVED BY U.S. PILOTS.

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